



### **8th Grade Summer Reading Assignments**

- You must read one book from List A and one book from List B.
- For each book you will produce a reflection (details on next page)
  - One book reflection should be in the form of an essay.
  - The other book reflection will be presented as a visual project.

**Your teacher will evaluate your essay and visual project the first week of school.**

#### **Reading List A:**

*Hope was Here* by Joan Bauer

*All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doer

*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin

*Look Both Ways* by Jason Reynolds

*I am Malala* by Malala Yousefzai

*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by Elizabeth Zunon

#### **Reading List B:**

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll

*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Arthur Conan Doyle

*The Call of the Wild* by Jack London

*Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne

*Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson



### **Reflection #1: Essay Response**

Please respond to one book you read by choosing from the following essay prompts. Your essay should be between 1.5-3 pages in length. Please type using 12pt Times New Roman font or write neatly in pen on lined paper.

Choose one prompt:

1. In your opinion, what is the most important theme in this book? What textual evidence supports your opinion? How does this theme relate to your life or current world events?
2. Compose a letter to the author in which you pose further questions you have about this book. Include at least three thoughtful questions that cannot be answered with a simple “yes,” or “no,” response. Include information about yourself in the letter to provide context for the author.
3. Identify a character trait of the main character. How does the author develop this trait throughout the book? Does this character change? If so, what events in the novel instigate this change? Do you personally relate to this character trait? If you do not relate to the trait, identify a person you know who might.
4. Did another story or book come to mind as you were reading? Compare this book to another book you have read in the past. What are the similarities and differences in plot, characterization, author’s voice, central themes, or conflict?

### **Reflection #2: Visual Project**

Please respond to one of the books you read with a visual representation of the characters, plot, setting, or themes. I have provided a few ideas for your visual project below. Your teacher is not grading for artistic ability, but rather for your development of a neatly made and on-topic visual.

Some ideas for your visual:

- Create a scrapbook page to represent the main character’s personality or a central theme.
- Design a newspaper headline and article to summarize a major event that takes place in the novel.
- Create/record a movie trailer based on the book.



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- Paint a portrait of the main character or a landscape of the scenery in the novel.
- Redesign the book's cover using either original or preexisting art. Write a blurb explaining why you chose this particular design on the book jacket.
- Plan and compose a three-course dinner menu inspired by the book. (For example, if you read *The Three Musketeers* there may be partridges and rabbit stew on the menu. If you read *Hope Was Here* you may be serving up some pies.)
- Loved the book? Really did not love the book? Record a video or audio book review.

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**Stay Safe and Have Fun This Summer!**